

Messiah Lutheran Church

1796-15 Avenue East

Prince Albert, S6V 8A1

Website: www.messiahluthpa.caFacebook page and YouTube channel: **MessiahLutheranChurchPrinceAlbert****Pastor Fran Schmidt**

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While Donna is on vacation this week, the office will be open Tuesday – Friday mornings from 9am – noon. Please note that the use of hand sanitizer and masks will be required for anyone entering the office with the exception of the church staff and financial volunteers.

Worship Plan for Sunday, September 13, 202015th Sunday after Pentecost, Year A

Grandparents Day & Blessing of the Backpacks

Musician: Elaine Serfas

Worship Service (in-person) starts at 10:30am. Please pre-register by phoning or emailing the office. Saskatchewan Health Authority and Saskatchewan Synod guidelines regarding physical distancing and adjustments to the worship service will be followed. In addition, masks will be worn and will be provided if you do not have one. The service will be recorded and available on the Messiah Facebook page, YouTube channel and Website by 6:00 pm on Sunday.

For those without internet access, a **telephone conference call is provided beginning Sunday at 6pm.** Phone 1.800.967.7148; when requested enter access code 182219 #. Please share this information with your family and friends. All are welcome!

Prayers for Healing and On-Going Health Concerns: We pray for comfort and healing for all those who are suffering in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their time of need.

Lectionary Bible Study: Pastor Fran is going to offer this study/conversation on Wednesday mornings at 10 a.m. starting on September 16th by ZOOM or in-person / physically distanced in the Peace Chapel. We will read through the Scriptures for the coming Sunday morning and study/discuss the texts, their meaning(s) and theology. Call the office to register and/ or receive the ZOOM link.

YOUTH & Mark your calendar for our first Joint Youth Activity with St. Alban's Cathedral and St. David's Anglican youth! It will be Saturday afternoon, September 19. More info to come!

CONFIRMATION Confirmation will start on September 20, with a zoom call for all parents & youth and will meet weekly on Sundays from 7-8 pm. The Zoom Link will be sent out by mail and email, or you can call into the office to receive the link.

In addition to Messiah's Worship Services, our faith can be supported and strengthened through:

- The **Eternity for Today (October – December)** daily devotion booklet is available. Please contact the church office if you would like a copy.
- **The Community Service & Caring Ministry Team:** if you would like a call or have a need of spiritual support, please contact the church office.
- **Online Worship and other resources:** Listing provided on ELCIC national website, with a link on the SK Synod website - <https://elcic.ca/publichealth/livestreaming.cfm>
- Central Lutheran Moose Jaw **radio worship service** (CHAB 800 AM) Sunday morning at 7:45am.

Thank you for all the ways you continue to support Messiah! Your prayers and concern for our Messiah family are greatly appreciated. Financial donations can be made through pre-authorized payments, e-transfer, Canada Helps, mail, drop off at the office mailbox, or pick up from your home – call the office for details.



<u>2020 Financial Update</u>		
	<u>Received</u>	<u>Budget</u>
January – August	\$85,962.65	\$107,766.64

Worship Plan for Sunday, September 13, 2020
15th Sunday after Pentecost, Year A

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTRODUCTION

A LITANY FOR CREATION

We gather in the name of the Triune God, Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer of the Earth and all its creatures!

Praise be to the Holy Trinity!

God is sound and life, Creator of the Universe, Source of all life, whom the angels sing; wondrous Light of all mysteries known or unknown to humankind, and life that lives in all.

(Hildegard of Bingen, 13th Century)

Bless the Lord, O my Soul!

All creatures look to you to give them their food at the proper time. When you open your hand, they are satisfied with good things.

You have made the moon to mark the seasons; the sun knows its time for setting.

You make darkness, and it is night, when all the animals of the forest come creeping out.

The lions roar for their prey and seek their food from God; The sunrises, and they steal away; they return and lie down in their dens.

Then people go out to their work, to their labor until evening.

From your lofty abode you water the mountains; You make springs gush forth in the valleys; they flow between the hills, giving drink to every wild animal;

You cause the grass to grow for the cattle, and plants for people to use, to bring forth food from the Earth, wine to gladden the human heart, oil to make the face shine, and bread to strengthen the human heart.

The Earth is satisfied with the fruit of your work.

All creatures look to you to give them their food at the proper time. When you open your hand, they are satisfied with good things. May the glory of the Lord endure forever!

(Based on Psalm 104, LWF Jubilee for the Earth Resource)

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you, **And also with you.**

Let us pray. **God of unchangeable power, when you fashioned the world the morning stars sang together and the host of heaven shouted for joy; open our eyes to the wonders of creation and teach us to see all things for good, to the honor of your glorious name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

(From: A New Zealand Prayer Book, p. 569)

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

FIRST READING: Genesis 50:15-21

After Jacob's death the brothers of Joseph begged for forgiveness for the crime they had done against him. You intended to do me harm, Joseph said, but God used this as an opportunity to do well and save many lives.

A reading from Genesis.

¹⁵Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, "What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?" ¹⁶So they approached Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this instruction before he died, ¹⁷'Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you.' Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. ¹⁸Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, "We are here as your slaves." ¹⁹But Joseph said to them, "Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? ²⁰Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. ²¹So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones." In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 103: 1-13

¹Bless the LORD, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless God's holy name.

²**Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all God's benefits—**

³who forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases;

⁴**who redeems your life from the grave and crowns you with steadfast love and mercy;**

⁵who satisfies your desires with good things so that your youth is renewed like an eagle's.

⁶**O LORD, you provide vindication and justice for all who are oppressed.**

⁷You made known your ways to Moses and your works to the children of Israel.

⁸**LORD, you are full of compassion and mercy, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love;**

⁹you will not always accuse us, nor will you keep your anger forever.

¹⁰**You have not dealt with us according to our sins, nor repaid us according to our iniquities.**

¹¹For as the heavens are high above the earth, so great is your steadfast love for those who fear you.

¹²**As far as the east is from the west, so far have you removed our transgressions from us.**

¹³As a father has compassion for his children, so you have compassion for those who fear you, O LORD.

GOSPEL: Matthew 18:21-35

The holy gospel according to Matthew, in the 18th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

When Peter asks about the limits of forgiveness, Jesus responds with a parable that suggests human forgiveness should mirror the unlimited mercy of God.

²¹Peter came and said to [Jesus], "Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?" ²²Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

²³"For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. ²⁴When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; ²⁵and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. ²⁶So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' ²⁷And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. ²⁸But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, 'Pay what you owe.' ²⁹Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me,

and I will pay you.’³⁰But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. ³¹When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. ³²Then his lord summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. ³³Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?’ ³⁴And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. ³⁵So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE - Blessing of the Backpacks

SERMON: “Neighbour love”

(based on the devotion by National Bishop Susan Johnson, ELCIC)

HYMN OF THE DAY: ELW #739 “Touch the Earth Lightly” (Vs. 1 & 4)

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

Please share a sign of that peace with your family group.

OFFERING PRAYER

We pray for gifts that have been given to continue the ministry of the church.

Let us pray.

God of goodness and growth, all creation is yours, and your faithfulness is as firm as the heavens. Water and word, wine and bread: signs of your abundant grace. Nourish us through your grace, and bless the gifts we offer now and those who give them, that we might proclaim your steadfast love in our communities and in the world, through Jesus Christ, our strength and our song. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE TO CARE FOR CREATION

Creator God, teach us to see you in the beauty of the universe, for all things speak of you. Awaken our praise and thankfulness for everything that you have made, praying, Creative Spirit and responding, **enlighten our hearts and remain with your world**

. . .

In the certain hope that nothing can separate us from your love, we offer these prayers to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who taught us to pray...

LORD’S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

BLESSING

God the Father, who created the world, give you grace to be wise stewards of his creation. **Amen.**

God the Son, who redeemed the world, inspire you to go out as labourers into his harvest. **Amen.**

God the Holy Spirit, whose breath fills the whole creation, help you to bear his fruits of love, joy and peace. **Amen.**

And the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.

Sung Amen. Amen. Amen.

(from "Let All Things Their Creator Bless": Liturgy for Use During the Season of Creationtide, Diocese of Guilford, p. 37)

SENDING SONG: Hymn #731 "Earth and All Stars! (Vs 1 & 4)

DISMISSAL

Tend the earth, care for God's good creation, and bring forth the fruits of righteousness. Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. **In the name of Christ. Amen.**

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